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garbage collection



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Relevance scale ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐**1 [Systems: Myths and realities: the performance impact of garbage collection](#)**

Stephen M. Blackburn, Perry Cheng, Kathryn S. McKinley

June 2004 **Proceedings of the joint international conference on Measurement and modeling of computer systems**Full text available: [pdf\(305.06 KB\)](#) Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [index terms](#)

This paper explores and quantifies garbage collection behavior for three whole heap collectors and generational counterparts: *copying semi-space*, *mark-sweep*, and *reference counting*, the canonical algorithms from which essentially all other collection algorithms are derived. Efficient implementations in MMTk, a Java memory management toolkit, in IBM's Jikes RVM share all common mechanisms to provide a clean experimental platform. Instrumentation separates collector and program behavior ...

Keywords: generational, java, mark-sweep, reference counting, semi-space**2 [Comparing mark-and-sweep and stop-and-copy garbage collection](#)**

Benjamin Zorn

May 1990 **Proceedings of the 1990 ACM conference on LISP and functional programming**Full text available: [pdf\(1.02 MB\)](#)Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

Stop-and-copy garbage collection has been preferred to mark-and-sweep collection in the last decade because its collection time is proportional to the size of reachable data and not to the memory size. This paper compares the CPU overhead and the memory requirements of the two collection algorithms extended with generations, and finds that mark-and-sweep collection requires at most a small amount of additional CPU overhead (3-6%) but, requires an average of 20% (and up to 40%) less memory than ...

3 [Connectivity-based garbage collection](#)

Martin Hirzel, Amer Diwan, Matthew Hertz

October 2003 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the 18th ACM SIGPLAN conference on Object-oriented programming, systems, languages, and applications**, Volume 38 Issue 11Full text available: [pdf\(521.65 KB\)](#) Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [index terms](#)

We introduce a new family of connectivity-based garbage collectors (Cbgc) that are based on potential object-connectivity properties. The key feature of these collectors is that the


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1 [Combining region inference and garbage collection](#)

Niels Hallenberg, Martin Elsman, Mads Tofte

 May 2002 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN 2002 Conference on Programming language design and implementation**, Volume 37 Issue 5

Full text available: pdf(195.49 KB)

 Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

This paper describes a memory discipline that combines region-based memory management and copying garbage collection by extending Cheney's copying garbage collection algorithm to work with regions. The paper presents empirical evidence that region inference very significantly reduces the number of garbage collections; and evidence that the fastest execution is obtained by using regions alone, without garbage collection. The memory discipline is implemented for Standard ML in the ML Kit compiler ...

Keywords: garbage collection, region interface, standard ML

2 [On the usefulness of type and liveness accuracy for garbage collection and leak detection](#)

Martin Hirzel, Amer Diwan, Johannes Henkel

 November 2002 **ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS)**, Volume 24 Issue 6

Full text available: pdf(684.85 KB)

 Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [index terms](#)

The effectiveness of garbage collectors and leak detectors in identifying dead objects depends on the *accuracy* of their reachability traversal. Accuracy has two orthogonal dimensions: (i) whether the reachability traversal can distinguish between pointers and nonpointers (*type accuracy*), and (ii) whether the reachability traversal can identify memory locations that will be dereferenced in the future (*liveness accuracy*). This article presents an experimental study of the impo ...

Keywords: Conservative garbage collection, leak detection, liveness accuracy, program analysis, type accuracy

3 [Compact garbage collection tables](#)

David Tarditi

 October 2000 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the second international**


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Martin Hirzel, Amer Diwan, Johannes Henkel

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Volume 24 Issue 6

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Keywords: Conservative garbage collection, leak detection, liveness accuracy, program analysis, type accuracy

2 [Compact garbage collection tables](#)

David Tarditi

 October 2000 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the second international symposium on Memory management**, Volume 36 Issue 1

 Full text available: [pdf\(958.92 KB\)](#) Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [index terms](#)

Garbage collection tables for finding pointers on the stack can be represented in 20-25% of the space previously reported. Live pointer information is often the same at many call sites because there are few pointers live across most call sites. This allows live pointer information to be represented compactly by a small index into a table of descriptions of pointer locations. The mapping from program counter values to those small indexes can be represented compactly using several techniques. T ...

3 [Garbage collection for strongly-typed languages using run-time type reconstruction](#)

Shail Aditya, Christine H. Flood, James E. Hicks

 July 1994 **ACM SIGPLAN Lisp Pointers , Proceedings of the 1994 ACM conference on LISP and functional programming**, Volume VII Issue 3

 Full text available: [pdf\(1.40 MB\)](#) Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#), [review](#)



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2 [On the usefulness of type and liveness accuracy for garbage collection and leak detection](#)

Martin Hirzel, Amer Diwan, Johannes Henkel

November 2002 **ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS)**, Volume 6

Full text available: pdf(684.85 KB)

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Keywords: Conservative garbage collection, leak detection, liveness accuracy, program analysis, accuracy

3 [Fine-grained mobility in the Emerald system](#)

Eric Jul, Henry Levy, Norman Hutchinson, Andrew Black

February 1988 **ACM Transactions on Computer Systems (TOCS)**, Volume 6 Issue 1

Full text available: pdf(2.01 MB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

Emerald is an object-based language and system designed for the construction of distributed prog An explicit goal of Emerald is support for object mobility; objects in Emerald can freely move withi system to take advantage of distribution and dynamically changing environments. We say that Err has fine-grained mobility because Emerald objects can be small data objects as well as process ob

Fine-grained mobility allows us to apply mobility in new ways but presents implemen ...

4 Efficient and safe-for-space closure conversion

Zhong Shao, Andrew W. Appel

January 2000 **ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS)**, Volume 2:

Full text available:  [pdf\(336.90 KB\)](#)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

Modern compilers often implement function calls (or returns) in two steps: first, a "closure" environment is properly installed to provide access for free variables in the target program fragment; second, target control is transferred to the target by a "jump with arguments (for results)." Closure conversion—decides where and how to represent closures at runtime—is a crucial step in the compilation of functional languages. This paper presents a new algorithm ...

Keywords: callee-save registers, closure conversion, closure representation, compiler optimization analysis, heap-based compilation, space safety

5 A typed interface for garbage collection

Joseph C. Vanderwaart, Karl Crary

January 2003 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the 2003 ACM SIGPLAN international workshop on Types in languages design and implementation**, Volume 38 Issue 3

Full text available:  [pdf\(316.77 KB\)](#)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [index terms](#)


An important consideration for certified code systems is the interaction of the untrusted program with the runtime system, most notably the garbage collector. Most certified code systems that treat the garbage collector as part of the trusted computing base dispense with this issue by using a collector whose interface with the program is simple enough that it does not pose any certification challenges. However, this approach rules out the use of many sophisticated high-performance garbage collectors ...

Keywords: certified code, garbage collection, type systems, typed compilation

6 Tag-free garbage collection using explicit type parameters

Andrew Tolmach

July 1994 **ACM SIGPLAN Lisp Pointers , Proceedings of the 1994 ACM conference on LISP : functional programming**, Volume VII Issue 3

Full text available:  [pdf\(1.04 MB\)](#)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

We have constructed a practical tag-free garbage collector based on explicit type parameterization of polymorphic functions, for a dialect of ML. The collector relies on type information derived from an explicitly-typed 2nd-order representation of the program, generated by the compiler as a byproduct of ordinary Hindley-Milner type inference. Runtime type manipulations are performed lazily to minimize execution overhead. We present details of our implementation approach, and preliminary performance results ...

7 Garbage collection for a client-server persistent object store

Laurent Amsaleg, Michael J. Franklin, Olivier Gruber

August 1999 **ACM Transactions on Computer Systems (TOCS)**, Volume 17 Issue 3

Full text available:  [pdf\(267.18 KB\)](#)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)


We describe an efficient server-based algorithm for garbage collecting persistent object stores in a server environment. The algorithm is incremental and runs concurrently with client transactions. Unlike previous algorithms, it does not hold any transactional locks on data and does not require callback clients. It is fault-tolerant, but performs very little logging. The algorithm has been designed to be integrated into existing systems, and therefore it works with standard interfaces ...

Keywords: client-server system, logging, persistent object-store, recovery

8 Parallel execution of prolog programs: a survey

Gopal Gupta, Enrico Pontelli, Khayri A.M. Ali, Mats Carlsson, Manuel V. Hermenegildo

July 2001 **ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS)**, Volume 23

Full text available:  pdf(1.95 MB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

Since the early days of logic programming, researchers in the field realized the potential for exploitation of parallelism present in the execution of logic programs. Their high-level nature, the presence of nondeterminism, and their referential transparency, among other characteristics, make logic programs interesting candidates for obtaining speedups through parallel execution. At the same time, the fact that the typical applications of logic programming frequently involve irregular computation ...

Keywords: Automatic parallelization, constraint programming, logic programming, parallelism, pr

9 Automated discovery of scoped memory regions for real-time Java

Morgan Deters, Ron K. Cytron

June 2002 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the third international symposium on Memory management**, Volume 38 Issue 2 supplement

Full text available:  pdf(227.49 KB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)


Advances in operating systems and languages have brought the ideal of reasonably-bounded execution time closer to developers who need such assurances for real-time and embedded systems applications. Recently, extensions to the Java libraries and virtual machine have been proposed in an emerging standard, which provides for specification of release times, execution costs, and deadlines for a real-time class of threads. To use such features, the code executing in the thread must never reference s ...

Keywords: garbage collection, memory management, real-time Java, regions, trace-based analysis

10 Object combining: A new aggressive optimization for object intensive programs

Ronald Veldema, J. H. Criel, F. H. Rutger, E. Henri

November 2002 **Proceedings of the 2002 joint ACM-ISCOPE conference on Java Grande**

Full text available:  pdf(99.27 KB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [index terms](#)


Object combining tries to put objects together that have roughly the same life times in order to reduce strain on the memory manager and to reduce the number of pointer indirections during a program execution. Object combining works by appending the fields of one object to another, allowing allocation and freeing of multiple objects with a single heap (de)allocation. Unlike object *inlining*, which will combine objects where one has a (unique) pointer to another, our optimization al ...

Keywords: Java, garbage collection, object management

11 Space-efficient closure representations

Zhong Shao, Andrew W. Appel

July 1994 **ACM SIGPLAN Lisp Pointers , Proceedings of the 1994 ACM conference on LISP and functional programming**, Volume VII Issue 3

Full text available:  pdf(1.26 MB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

Many modern compilers implement function calls (or returns) in two steps: first, a closure environment properly installed to provide access for free variables in the target program fragment; second, the environment is transferred to the target by a "jump with arguments (or results)". Closure conversion, which determines where and how to represent closures at runtime, is a crucial step in compilation of functional languages. We have a new algorithm t ...

12 Fast procedure calls

Butler W. Lampson

March 1982 **Proceedings of the first international symposium on Architectural support for programming languages and operating systems**, Volume 10 , 17 Issue 2 , 4

Full text available:  [pdf\(973.90 KB\)](#)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)


A mechanism for control transfers should handle a variety of applications (e.g., procedure calls and returns, coroutine transfers, exceptions, process switches) in a uniform way. It should also allow an implementation in which the common cases of procedure call and return are extremely fast, preferably as fast as unconditional jumps in the normal case. This paper describes such a mechanism and method for its efficient implementation.

Keywords: Architecture, Call, Frame, Procedure, Registers, Stack, Transfer

13 Implementing jalapeño in Java

Bowen Alpern, C. R. Attanasio, Anthony Cocchi, Derek Lieber, Stephen Smith, Ton Ngo, John J. Barto, Susan Flynn Hummel, Janice C. Sheperd, Mark Mergen

October 1999 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the 14th ACM SIGPLAN conference on C++ oriented programming, systems, languages, and applications**, Volume 34 Issue 10

Full text available:  [pdf\(1.57 MB\)](#)


Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

Jalapeño is a virtual machine for Java™ servers written in Java. A running Java program involves five layers of functionality: the user code, the virtual-machine, the operating system, and the hardware. Drawing the Java / non-Java boundary below the virtual machine rather than above it, Jalapeño reduces the boundary-crossing overhead and opens up more opportunities for optimization. To get Jalapeño started, a boot image of a ...

14 A structural view of the Cedar programming environment

Daniel C. Swinehart, Polle T. Zellweger, Richard J. Beach, Robert B. Hagmann

August 1986 **ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS)**, Volume 8 Issue 1

Full text available:  [pdf\(6.32 MB\)](#)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

This paper presents an overview of the Cedar programming environment, focusing on its overall structure—that is, the major components of Cedar and the way they are organized. Cedar supports development of programs written in a single programming language, also called Cedar. Its primary purpose is to increase the productivity of programmers whose activities include experimental programming and the development of prototype software systems for a high-performance personal computer. This ...

15 Creating and preserving locality of java applications at allocation and garbage collection time

Yefim Shuf, Manish Gupta, Hubertus Franke, Andrew Appel, Jaswinder Pal Singh

November 2002 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the 17th ACM SIGPLAN conference on Object-oriented programming, systems, languages, and applications**, Volume 37 Issue 11

Full text available:  [pdf\(180.20 KB\)](#)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

The growing gap between processor and memory speeds is motivating the need for optimization strategies that improve data locality. A major challenge is to devise techniques suitable for pointer-intensive applications. This paper presents two techniques aimed at improving the memory behavior of pointer-intensive applications with dynamic memory allocation, such as those written in Java. First, we present an allocation-time object placement technique based on the recently introduced notion of ...

Keywords: JVM, Java, garbage collection, heap traversal, locality, locality based graph traversal, memory allocation, memory management, object co-allocation, object placement, prolific types, runtime systems

16 Escape analysis for Java™: Theory and practice

Bruno Blanchet

November 2003 **ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS)**, Volume 6

Full text available:  pdf(684.21 KB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [index terms](#)


Escape analysis is a static analysis that determines whether the lifetime of data may exceed its static scope. This paper first presents the design and correctness proof of an escape analysis for Java™. The analysis is interprocedural, context sensitive, and as flow-sensitive as the static single assignment. So, assignments to object fields are analyzed in a flow-insensitive manner. Since Java is an imperative language, the effect of assignments must be precisely determined. This ...

Keywords: Java, optimization, stack allocation, static analysis, synchronization elimination

17 Automatic pool allocation for disjoint data structures

Chris Lattner, Vikram Adve

June 2002 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the workshop on Memory system performance**, Volume 38 Issue 2 supplement

Full text available:  pdf(1.48 MB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#)

This paper presents an analysis technique and a novel program transformation that can enable pool optimizations for entire linked data structures. The fully automatic transformation converts ordinal programs to use pool (aka region) allocation for heap-based data structures. The transformation requires an efficient link-time interprocedural analysis to identify disjoint data structures in the program, to check whether these data structures are accessed in a type-safe manner, and to construct ...

18 A high performance Erlang system

Erik Johansson, Mikael Pettersson, Konstantinos Sagonas

September 2000 **Proceedings of the 2nd ACM SIGPLAN international conference on Principles and practice of declarative programming**

Full text available:  pdf(320.62 KB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

19 Practicing JUDO: Java under dynamic optimizations

Michał Cierniak, Guei-Yuan Lueh, James M. Stichnoth

May 2000 **ACM SIGPLAN Notices , Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN 2000 conference on Programming language design and implementation**, Volume 35 Issue 5

Full text available:  pdf(190.06 KB)


Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#), [citations](#), [index terms](#)

A high-performance implementation of a Java Virtual Machine (JVM) consists of efficient implementations of Just-In-Time (JIT) compilation, exception handling, synchronization mechanism, and garbage collection (GC). These components are tightly coupled to achieve high performance. In this paper, we present some static and dynamic techniques implemented in the JIT compilation and exception handling of the Microprocessor Research Lab Virtual Machine (MRL VM), ...

20 Distributed systems - programming and management: On remote procedure call

Patrícia Gomes Soares

November 1992 **Proceedings of the 1992 conference of the Centre for Advanced Studies on Collaborative research - Volume 2**

Full text available:  pdf(4.52 MB)

Additional Information: [full citation](#), [abstract](#), [references](#)

The Remote Procedure Call (RPC) paradigm is reviewed. The concept is described, along with the backbone structure of the mechanisms that support it. An overview of works in supporting these



mechanisms is discussed. Extensions to the paradigm that have been proposed to enlarge its suite are studied. The main contributions of this paper are a standard view and classification of RPC mechanisms according to different perspectives, and a snapshot of the paradigm in use today and goals for t ...

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